

# the PRESBYTERIAN

OF THE SOUTH  
COMBINING  
THE SOUTHWESTERN PRESBYTERIAN  
THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN  
THE SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

ATLANTA, GA., AUGUST 18, 1909.

RICHMOND, VA.

## God Knows Best.

Some time when all life's lessons have been learned,  
And sun and stars for evermore have set,  
The things which our weak judgment here have spurned,  
The things o'er which we grieved with lashes wet,  
Will flash before us out of life's dark night,  
As stars shine most in deepest tints of blue,  
And we shall see how all God's plans are right,  
And how what seemed reproof was love most true.

And we shall see that while we frown and sigh,  
God's plans go on as best for you and me;  
How when we called he heeded not our cry,  
Because his wisdom to the end could see.  
And e'en as prudent parents disallow  
Too much of sweets to craving babyhood,  
So God, perhaps, is keeping from us now  
Life's sweetest things because it seemeth good.

And you shall shortly know that lengthened breath,  
Is not the sweetest gift God sends his friends,  
And that sometimes, the sable pall of death  
Conceals the fairest boon his love can send;  
If we could push ajar the gates of life,  
And stand within and all God's workings see,  
We could interpret all this doubt and strife,  
And for each mystery could find a key.

But not today. Then be content, poor heart,  
God's plans like lilies pure and white unfold,  
We must not tear the close shut leaves apart;  
Time will reveal the calyxes of gold;  
And if through patient toil we reach the Land  
Where tired feet, with sandals loose, may rest,  
When we shall clearly know and understand,  
I think that we shall say that "God knows best."

—Selected.

✻ "To the Law and to the Testimony. If they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them.---Isaiah liii: 20. ✻